

DO NOT MAKE THE CIA A POLITICAL PINATA

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time for us to make a political pinata out of the CIA. How long ago was it that 9/11 occurred? And what did the commission on 9/11 tell us? It said we did not have adequate intelligence. We had lost an entire generation of intelligence operatives as a result of prior action by this Congress.

We can talk about the Church Committee report. We can talk about what happened during the Carter administration. We can talk about what happened in the Clinton administration. We thought we didn't need human intelligence; we could do it all with electronic.

The way to attract people, bright young people, committed patriots, to this country's intelligence is not to go after the CIA, is not, after the fact, for what appears to be political reasons, to threaten criminal investigations of those who are doing nothing more than trying to save this country from attack by others who would try and kill innocent Americans.

This outrage must stop. Do not make the CIA a political pinata, for whatever purpose.

A GOOD DAY TO STAND UP FOR COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, what a glorious day and a great time to be in Congress. We have an opportunity to preside in this 111th Congress when we pass comprehensive health care reform with a public option.

You know, the fact is that millions of Americans are looking forward to the day when they don't have to worry about being excluded for a preexisting condition, when they will have true portability, when we can unlock the true entrepreneurial talent of America because people will be able to go and pursue their entrepreneurial dreams without fear of losing health care.

The fact is the other team, look, they had their day. They tried and all we have gotten is sicker at a higher expense, and we've been dying earlier. We haven't seen better outcomes with status quo health care, and people who stand for the status quo, they have had their shot and their time has run.

So, Mr. Speaker, thank you for presiding today. This is a good day to stand up for comprehensive health care reform and a strong, robust public option.

IN TRIBUTE TO WARREN TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

(Mr. LANCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Warren Township, New Jersey, for being named one of Money magazine's top 100 places to live for 2009. Warren Township was ranked sixth in the Nation in the magazine's annual rankings.

Located in the heart of the Watchung Mountains 35 miles west of New York City in Somerset County, New Jersey, Warren Township is not your typical big city suburb. Once described as "the greenest place in New Jersey," Warren Township is home to major corporations like Chubb Insurance and Citigroup. Yet the community retains its rural character through open space and its 72 working farms.

Good schools and family friendly township recreation, among other things, make Warren Township just one of the many great places in New Jersey to live, work and raise a family.

Congratulations to Warren Township. I'm proud to be the township's representative in Washington.

DEFENDING ARIZONA VALUES CAMPAIGN

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, wherever I go in my district, I hear the same thing. Folks feel like greater Arizona's values are not being represented in Washington.

In this historic and challenging time, it is more important than ever for someone to stand up for what is important to us. I am determined to give voice to our values.

Today, I am launching my "Defending Arizona Values" campaign to continue my fight for the ideals I was raised with in rural Arizona. I will take on big government to make it more accountable and responsive to our needs, instead of just offering handouts and weighing us down with bureaucracy. I will also work to preserve our tradition of self-reliance.

As part of this effort, I am proud to announce that I have signed on as a co-sponsor to the Federal Reserve Transparency Act. We need more oversight and accountability in our government, and auditing the Fed is a valuable step in the right direction.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ALBERTA KINNEY

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life of Alberta Kinney, an Amherst, New York, resident who answered the Nation's call to service during World War II.

In 1944, Alberta became part of the first group of women to fly military aircraft for the United States. The primary mission of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP as they came to be known, was to fly noncombat military missions so that their male counterparts could be deployed to combat.

The WASP did much more than fulfill wartime needs, overcoming significant hurdles to carry the torch for Amelia Earhart and pass it on to Sally Ride.

Last month, after the President signed into law a measure that honors Alberta and her fellow WASP with a Congressional Gold Medal, it was our hope that she would be able to travel to Washington in the near future to take part in a ceremony commemorating this honor. But sadly, Alberta passed away this past Friday evening.

On behalf of the people of western New York, I extend my deepest sympathies to Alberta's loved ones and ask the House to join me in honoring this distinguished member of the Greatest Generation.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the significance of health care reform for our country and to emphasize the importance of keeping the real VIPs, the people, involved in the process.

Health care reform is evolving rapidly, and I want to ensure that the people back home have real input into what is going on here in Washington, DC.

Earlier this year, I set up a Health Care Advisory Committee, which I meet with every month and which my staff deals with on a daily basis. Members of the advisory committee not only receive the news that's happening here on Capitol Hill with respect to health care, but they actually give us their input of what they're hearing and what they want to see in a health care reform bill. Their expert opinions are so valued in our ability to try to decide what to do here. And next week I will hold a town hall meeting where people back home can come and actually give us their ideas and listen to what is going on here with the development of health care reform.

I encourage all of my colleagues to go home and to hold these types of meetings and to listen to what the people really want.

\$18 MILLION CAN'T BUY CREDIBILITY

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REHBERG. As some are toasting the success of the so-called stimulus, unemployment rates spiral out of control. Now the White House plans to spend 18 million taxpayer dollars to redesign the Web site that tracks how many jobs have been "saved or created" by the stimulus.

Montanans shouldn't be asked to foot the bill for a Web site that only serves as political damage control for a failing big government policy. We'd rather know the reality on the ground. That's why I launched a Web site that lets my constituents report their experiences with the stimulus. Montana Stimulus Watch didn't cost taxpayers millions of dollars, but it did bring to light that a company had to lay off 24 workers because stimulus dollars went to an out-of-State contractor to pave a Montana road.

I doubt those layoffs will be counted in the slippery "saved or created" formula, but then again, \$18 million can't buy credibility.

WOMEN IMMIGRANTS—THE NEW FACE OF MIGRATION IN AMERICA

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, today I hosted a panel discussion on the results of a historic poll on women immigrants to America. Today, women comprise half or more of the immigrants entering this country. Women are the new face of migration in America.

Among the findings of this historic poll, many women immigrants acknowledge speaking little or no English, while confronting anti-immigrant discrimination, lack of health care, and low-paying employment, well below the status of the professional work most did in their home countries.

Thirty-eight percent of the women came to join family members; 22 percent to make a better life for their children. Their top two biggest challenges were helping their children achieve success and being able to hold their families together.

The poll data paralleled my mother's own experience in bringing me and my brothers to the United States from Japan in the mid-1950s: her desire to build better futures for us; her early, low-paying, no-benefits jobs; her determination to keep the family together as head of household.

The importance of family to women immigrants is something we can all relate to and support as we discuss and debate immigration reform.

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MAYOR FOR A DAY

(Mr. ROSKAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSKAM. A few years ago, my predecessor, Congressman Henry Hyde, started a great program. It was an ini-

tiative to invite young men and women to participate in a civic conversation. It's in Elmhurst, Illinois, and it's a Mayor for a Day program.

I am pleased to announce that Brad Martin of Brian Middle School was the winner of the Mayor for a Day program. I won't read his whole essay. You can go to my Web site and check it out.

But essentially he said that if he were a mayor for a day, he would start a CARE program, which essentially stands for Caring and Respecting Everyone. I think in this day and this age in the 111th Congress, all of us can learn from the wisdom of Brad Martin.

WHEN IS ENOUGH, ENOUGH?

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SPEIER. When is enough enough? AIG is getting ready to pay out more in retention bonuses. This is on top of the \$165 million they paid out in March to the same executives whose credit default swaps and other poorly designed financial products drove the world economy off a cliff.

The only difference is this time around they are trying to get the American people to say that what they're doing is right.

Give me a break.

Taxpayers have already infused \$170 billion into AIG. And where is their break? A teacher in my district gets \$60,000 a year. A bench scientist coming up with a cure for cancer gets maybe \$200,000 a year. An ER doc saving people's lives every single day gets maybe \$350,000 a year.

AIG has asked the administration's compensation czar, Kenneth Feinberg, to sign off on these bonuses—even while acknowledging he has no authority to stop them. Why? Because AIG wants cover.

I urge Mr. Feinberg to reject AIG's request.

GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA SIGNS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if there's one thing the Feds are really good at, it's wasting money. And thanks to the so-called stimulus bill, there are billions of citizen dollars floating around loose being blown by the wastecrats.

In a report released last week by the Government Accountability Office, we found out that the money is not being used to create permanent jobs in the private sector as it was intended. It's actually being used to pay for overspending in State budgets and expand government bureaucracy.

In some States, Mr. Speaker, they're erecting signs to try to convince people that the government stimulus boondoggle is a success. Here's one of those signs. This sign is being posted where

no construction has actually started—and the signs cost \$2,000 in Pennsylvania and New York. New Jersey pays \$3,000 for a sign like this. Who's making these signs—Michelangelo?

When Big Government is in charge of the job creation business instead of private industry, it's easier to create million-dollar public relations propaganda signs than it is to create real jobs.

And that's just the way it is.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, we're closing in on a moment in American history that has taken over 70 years to reach. In the mid-1930s, Franklin Delano Roosevelt considered a proposal that would extend health care coverage to every American. But he withdrew the idea because the political will was not up to the challenge at the time. But times have changed.

President Obama has called on the Congress to pass comprehensive health care reform legislation—and he has the support of the American people behind him, especially the middle class.

There are countless facts and figures to support his effort. There are maps, there are charts, there are all kinds of spread sheets, but there is one fact that stands out above all others: Every American today either faces his or her own health care crisis or knows someone who is.

When Americans play by the rules but see their economic lives threatened and destroyed because of their medical expenses, America must change. We are at the crossroads of providing a fair deal for the American people. But we cannot take progress for granted. Times like this don't come along very often. We cannot afford to let this one fall short.

CONGRATULATING MS. SUSAN LEWIS ON 45 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. I rise today to honor Ms. Susan Lewis, who spent her life in the classroom devoting her time to educating our youth. Ms. Lewis is retiring from 45 years of teaching. More than 30 of those years were spent at Coleman Junior High in Van Buren, Arkansas, teaching algebra.

Coleman Junior High will undoubtedly be losing an amazing individual who contributed to the lives of two generations of Arkansans. Her time in the classroom provided her students the necessary tools for building a brighter future.

Ms. Lewis exemplifies the idea that with good teachers there is improved student achievement. Her hard work and dedication made her a model for